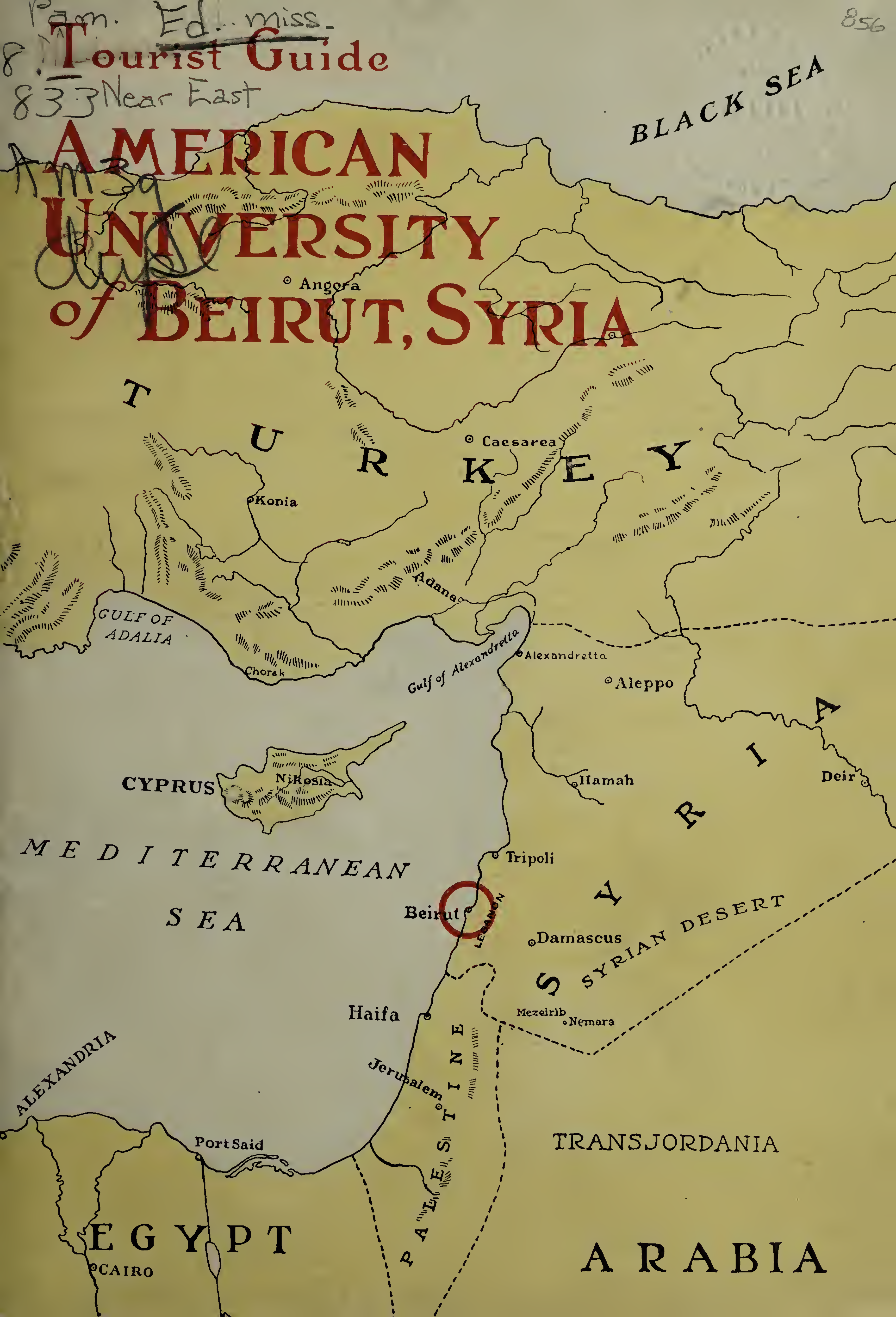

Tourist Guide
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY of BEIRUT, SYRIA
BLACK SEA
Angora
TURKEY
Caesarea
Konia
Adana
GULF OF ADALIA
Chorak
Gulf of Alexandretta
Alexandretta
Aleppo
CYPRUS
Nikosia
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
Hamah
Deir
SYRIA
Tripoli
Beirut
LEBANON
Damascus
SYRIAN DESERT
Haifa
Mezeirib
Nemara
Jerusalem
PALESTINE
ALEXANDRIA
Port Said
TRANSJORDANIA
EGYPT
CAIRO
ARABIA

## Builder of Good Will

*"The briefest sojourn on its lovely campus, among its two dozen noble buildings, with its superb views, eastward and northward, of opalescent Lebanon, and westward of the great blue sea; with a visit to its museums, its laboratories, its observatory, its library, its athletic fields, its hospitals, its student buildings; interviews with its hundred teachers; contact with its thousand students of many races (Syrian, Turk, Tartar, Persian, Indian, Egyptian) and of many religions (Moslem, Druze, Jewish, Bahai and all the Christian sects), as they study, as they play, as they worship—a visit, I say, of this kind establishes the irrefutable conviction that here has been created a 'psychological climate' from whose influence no student can escape. He is not, indeed, always aware of the changes in himself. . . . The fruitage of this seed may not come until long after he has left the College campus. But a change is being wrought, and he is daily learning, not merely, not chiefly from his books, lessons in fairness, in honesty, in purity, in respect for labour and for learning and culture, in reverence, in modesty, in courage, in self-control, in regard for women, in the many forces which make for religion. . . . Wherever this man goes, he makes it easier to foster education, to overturn tyranny, to soften fanaticism, to promote freedom in state and church."*

Dr. Howard S. Bliss,
In the *Atlantic Monthly*, May, 1920.

# TOURIST GUIDE

*to*

# The American University of Beirut

*"Builder of Good Will"*

Published by

NEAR EAST COLLEGES

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*(Office d'Information & de Tourisme, Beirut.)*

BEIRUT AND THE HARBOUR WITH THE LEBANONS IN THE DISTANCE.

# Beirut

BERYTUS, as Beirut was known, was one of the most ancient settlements on the Phoenician coast; but nothing more of it than the name is known till B.C. 140, when the town was taken and destroyed by Tryphon in his contest with Antiochus VII for the throne of the Seleucids," according to the Encyclopedia Britannica. "It duly passed under Rome, much favored by the Herods, and became a 'colonia.' It was famous for its schools, especially that of law, from the fourth century A.D. onwards. Justinian recognized it as one of three official law schools of the empire (A.D. 533) but within a few years, as the result of a disastrous earthquake (551), the students were transferred to Sidon.

"In the following century the city passed on to the Arabs (635), and was not again a Christian city till 1111, when Baldwin captured it. Saladin retook it in 1187, and thence-forward, for six centuries and a half, whoever its nominal lords may have been, Saracen, Crusader, Mameluke or (from the 16th century) Turk, the Druse emirs of Lebanon dominated it. When the powers moved against the Egyptians in 1840, Beirut had shortly before been occupied in force by Ibrahim as a menace to the Druses; but he was easily driven out after a destructive bombardment by Admiral Sir Robert Stopford. After the pacification of the Lebanon in 1860, Beirut greatly increased in extent and became the centre of the transit trade for Syria."

## The City of Sunsets

This ancient and historical city on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean is described by the National Geographic Society, as "the City of Sunsets."

"Picture, nestling at the base of the Lebanon, a many tinted city pushed out into the setting sun by the pressure of a famous mountain range, which, just east of the city and robbing it of the early morning light, towers to 8,500 feet in a beautiful mountain whose snowy heights form the crystal screen upon which is projected the rose glow of the world's most colorful sunsets.

"The backbone of the city stretches to the west from a low alluvial plain which almost makes Beirut an island. The wharves are to the north, looking away from the more famous but inferior ports of Tyre and Sidon to the south and toward the other Phoenician ports of Tripoli and Alexandretta and Seleucia, all of which have old Phoenician names long since forgotten by the inhabitants.

## Rivals Bay of Naples

"Just outside the disfiguring breakwater lies the bluest, most nearly perfect curve of bay east of Naples. It bears the name of St. George and although it is the French that have improved it, the British have made it notable on their beautiful gold coins, now extinct, which showed St. George killing the dragon.

"The streets of Beirut are narrow and full of life. The buildings are kalsomined in various hues, ugly near at hand, but truly Turneresque from a distance. On one of the highest points at the eastern end of the high rib which the city straddles there is a military barracks. Beirut has tram lines which run along the backbone, and near the center of the city there is a small park around

which the trams turn. There is another line of trams which runs to the south to a beautiful grove of pines which were planted to save the city from the drifting sands.

## Beautiful College Campus

"The western end of the limestone ridge is called Ras Beirut, or the point of Beirut, and near the extremity of this section there is one of the loveliest college campuses on earth (American University of Beirut) with more than a score of principal buildings. Possibly nowhere else on earth has America's name been more revered, and so lovely is the scene of the deep blue bay and the snowy mountain range that there has long been a standing argument between this college and Robert College at Rumeli Hissar, outside Constantinople on the Bosporus, as to which has the lovelier view.

"In from the west and north sweep the waves which are eating away at the limestone cliffs and each year the shore line recedes before the fierce battle with the waters upon which the Phoenician argosies set out in search of fame and commerce. Narrow coves extend in from the sea and in these one finds some of the finest natural swimming pools. These coves form the playground of the college students and each has its name. There is the Preparatory Cove for young students, the College Cove and the Faculty Cove where the young American teachers swim.

## Famous Tourist Route

"From the harbor there rises a cog wheel railway which connects the ancient city of Damascus to the seacoast. It is this French railway and the French harbor which has given Beirut its prominence as a port and few

indeed are the Palestinian tourists who have not passed over this road while leaving the world's oldest city, a green oasis in the midst of the tawny desert, and the Cyclopean ruins of Baalbek, to return to the ship for home.

"The natives say that the Lebanon has summer in its lap, spring on its bosom and winter on its head and by moving up the slopes one can find the temperature desired. The mountains offer various summer resorts for the inhabitants of the city of Beirut and rich Egyptians. There are gaming places on Lebanon, and up the winding roads there now climb motor cars of all shapes and sizes. The green masses of the foothills are dotted with pretty Lebanon villages from which thousands of Syrians have set out across the sea as did the Phoenicians from the same port but to the land in America instead of to the chalk cliffs of Albion, where tin was obtained in ancient times."

## Government of Syria

On July 20, 1923, the Assembly of the League of Nations confirmed the French mandate over Syria. This state is bounded on the South by Palestine and Transjordania, on the east by Irak and on the north by Turkey. It contains an area of approximately 70,000 square miles and its population numbers about 3,350,000. General Weygand is the French High Commissioner of the territory. He is assisted by a Syrian Governor and a Syrian council of ministers with French advisers.

The state is divided into four administrative districts. Beirut is an autonomous municipality in the Lebanon district. The Alauite Territory also has a special administration.

Each of the four districts has a separate administration under a French official appointed by the High Commissioner, and a council of French and Syrians. The districts choose delegates to a Federal Council which sits in an advisory capacity on questions of general concern to all, such as customs, finance and legislation.

## Commerce and Industry

With a good harbor and favorable environs, Beirut, now a city of about 200,000, has outdistanced the rival ports of Tripoli and Alexandretta to the north and is today the metropolis of Syria.

Damascus, the gateway of the desert, lies just beyond the Lebanon mountains directly to the east of Beirut. Modern motor transport facilities out from Damascus across Mesopotamia link the hinterland more closely with the old Phoenician city on the coast. The northern boundary of the state lies along the railroad line eastward from Aleppo and thus cuts off by a customs barrier a rich country to the north which formerly gave a prosperous trade to Aleppo and stimulated the activity of its nearest port, Alexandretta.

Syria enjoys a diversity of climates within a very narrow strip of territory. Leguminous and graminous crops flourish along the seashore where the climate is also favorable to the fig and olive; tobacco is raised successfully. Further inland wheat and corn are grown, and there are vineyards and apple, pear and apricot orchards. In the mountains are forests of pine and oak, and mulberry orchards and vineyards. Such crops allow the export of a certain amount of olives, olive oil, raisins, fruit and fruit paste, and cocoons. In the interior are tanneries and a few native textile industries. Rugs and

ornamental brass wares are characteristic products. Flocks and herds provide wool, skins, sheep casings and hides for export. But no mineral wealth has been found or developed and since the production of foodstuffs within the country is insufficient for its needs and the exports are so limited in quantity the trade balance has thus far been adverse. This is offset in a measure by remittances from Syrians located in America and elsewhere abroad.

The approximate foreign trade statistics for 1922 as given in the United States Consular reports are: Imports, $41,119,902; exports, $7,206,448. In 1922 the United Kingdom was first; France, second; Germany, fifth, and the United States sixth in the amount of imports into Syria. The United States was fourth in the order of destination of exports from Syria.

The chief imports and the principal countries of origin of goods shipped through the port of Beirut during 1922 were: cotton goods, from Italy, the United Kingdom and Egypt; food products from France, Italy and Netherlands; liquors and beverages from France, Germany and Egypt; colonial products and grain from Egypt, the United States and France; iron and steel from Belgium and England; building material from France and Belgium; automobiles and petroleum from the United States.

## Syrian Currency

The Syrian currency system is taken from the French, and the financial relations of the two countries are so linked that the value of the Syrian money fluctuates with the value of the French franc. Twenty French francs equal one Syrian lira, whose original value was about $4.00. One lira is one hundred Syrian piasters.

# GUIDE FOR TOURISTS

## Visitors Welcome at the University

All tourists are most cordially invited to the University. The institution is easily accessible by motor, carriage or street car and is a fifteen minutes' walk from the center of the city. When going by trolley one can take car marked "Phare" near the steamship pier, and get off at "Kulleyyah," which is the entrance of the University.

## The "City Tour"—Side Trips

In addition to a visit to the American University a tour of the city could include the Ocean Drive, Pigeon Rocks, the French High Commissioner's Residence and Park, the Armenian Refugee Camp, the American Board School for Girls, the Mission Compound with schools and the American Press and the Y. W. C. A. Service Center.

The following interesting side trips are suggested:

1. North from Beirut to ancient Jibail, ancient inscriptions on the cliffs of Dog River; royal tombs; Armenian orphanages.

2. Shebaniyah, 2500 feet up in the Lebanon mountains. Beautiful views. Site of the only tuberculosis hospital in Syria. Time, one-half day.

3. Lebanon Mountain trip, along the Sidon road, up through Shweifat, Aim Ainub and Shimlan back along the Lebanon ridge looking down upon Beirut and the ocean 2500 feet below, through Suk-el-Gharb and Aleih (popular summer resorts) down past the Asfuriyeh to Beirut. Time one-half day.



STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY LEAVING CHAPEL.

# The American University of Beirut

SITUATED in the land which has been the birthplace of three great religions, the American University of Beirut is one of the most cosmopolitan educational institutions in the world. It is proving to be a powerful force in bringing the leaders of many nationalities in the Near East into a better understanding and appreciation of each other. It has been referred to as a perpetual peace conference in the interest of international good will.

## Dr. Daniel Bliss, The Central Figure

The tragic events of 1860 in Syria were a kind of mental earthquake that shook the people out of a self-satisfied lethargy and made them long to know more of the world outside of Syria. The desire for knowledge was more or less indefinite until the American Mission in Syria gave it shape.

Dr. Daniel Bliss was a central figure in this early educational movement. The schools in Syria were not adapted to meet all the varied demands of the country, and the need of a real college was strongly felt.

In January, 1862, the committee appointed by the Mission to consider this question recommended the establishment of a "Literary Institution of high character to

be guided and guarded by the combined wisdom and experience of the Mission" though not organically connected with it. Dr. Daniel Bliss was chosen Principal of the institution. Subsequently he was directed to go to America to acquaint the public with this proposal to found a college.

In America when Dr. Bliss had been assured of funds for the institution, chiefly through the staunch support of William Earl Dodge, he visited the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York at Albany and, with the advocacy of Samuel J. Tilden, succeeded in obtaining a charter for the college. On April 24, 1863, it was incorporated under the laws of the State of New York as "The Trustees of the Syrian Protestant College."

Two years were spent by Dr. Bliss in the United States and a year and a half in England in the effort to raise money for the college. He returned to Beirut in March, 1866. In England he had collected a little more than four thousand pounds sterling which enabled him to start his college at once while he wisely allowed the $100,000 in greenbacks collected in the United States to regain par value.

The college opened on December 3, 1866. There were sixteen students.

## New Site Selected

For three years the college was housed in four or five rooms in an insignificant building in an unattractive district of the city of Beirut. The all important question soon arose regarding its final location on land and in buildings of its own. "We rode everywhere through the city," states Dr. Bliss in his "Reminiscences," "looking as we rode. Finally we saw the piece of ground

where the college now stands and fell in love with it at sight and immediately decided that we had found the finest site in all Beirut if not in all Syria." In later years, Dr. Bliss used to point with amusement to some of the sites which had first been suggested, which showed that those who proposed them had utterly failed to grasp the idea of a home for a *great university*.

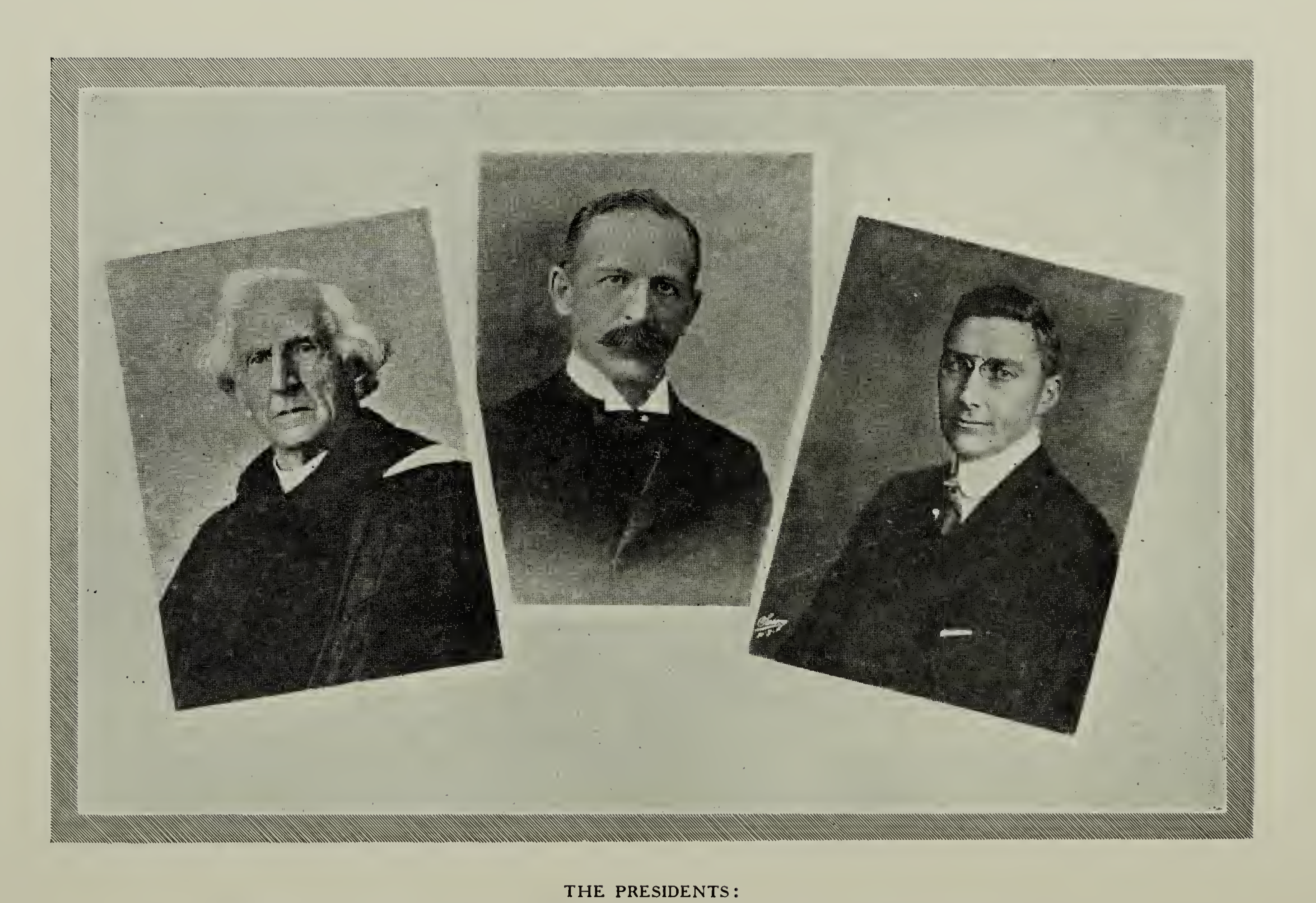
## New Departments

Urged by the crying need for trained physicians in a "land cursed by medical quacks and jugglers" the Faculty organized a School of Medicine in 1867, but one year after the opening of the college proper. The clinic was small and at the beginning there were only four beds in the hospital. It is remarkable that at the start a four years' course in the Medical Department was offered although nearly all the medical schools in America had at that time a three years' course only.

In 1875 the School of Pharmacy was founded as a natural supplement to the Medical School.

The native schools were not adequate in number, or in character to supply students ready for college work. During the early years the college was obliged to institute supplementary classes to fit applicants for entrance. Finally in 1880 these classes were organized into a Preparatory Department which now is not only a feeder for the college but is a complete institution in itself to provide a superior secondary education for those unable to continue their courses further.

The School of Commerce, established in 1900, grew out of a conviction that a great service could be rendered in developing a higher degree of business efficiency among the people of the Near East and infusing a higher



THE PRESIDENTS:

DANIEL BLISS, 1863-1902. HOWARD S. BLISS, 1902-1920. BAYARD DODGE, 1923-.

standard of ethics into their trading activities. First class clerical material is only a by-product of this school; the primary purpose of its technical training is to fit men for the larger work of organizing and conducting business undertakings according to modern methods.

In 1902 at the age of 79, Dr. Bliss resigned the presidency of the college, after a period of more than half his lifetime at the helm. When he became President-Emeritus his active duties did not cease. For some years longer he conducted his classes and attended Faculty meetings until 1912. He passed away at Beirut in June, 1916. Dr. Howard Sweetser Bliss succeeded his father as President.

The Orient has been slow in consenting to assign to women a part even in humanitarian service, but in 1905 the college led the way in starting a Nurses' Training School. Since the war attendance at the school has doubled. It is hoped that a suitable home for the nurses can be provided from the "Mary Bliss Dale Fund" that is now being solicited.

The Teachers' Training Course was instituted in 1909, the first year after the Turkish Revolution, when the promised freedom in education made the demand for teachers so urgent.

In the following year the School of Dentistry was founded. In 1914, courses in Agriculture and Engineering were added to the curriculum. Most appropriately in the land of the Bible a School of Biblical Archaeology and Philology has been organized to promote research by advanced students.

## A Great University

In reading this long list of the schools of the American University of Beirut one should realize that these schools are established far from America in a land which was virtually forgotten by the western world during a period of nearly six hundred years after the Crusades. Twenty-nine college buildings now rise on a piece of ground that sixty years ago was a bare stretch of neglected bluff above the sea. They may truly be said to have sprung from that ground for they are built of rock quarried in the campus. Picture this splendid group as a part of Daniel Bliss' conception sixty years ago of a *great university* for a land barren of social and intellectual agencies and unmindful of its spiritual heritage. It brings a thrill of joy and pride to those who share in this great contribution which Americans are herein making not only to the Near East but to the many lands to which the thousands of the University graduates have scattered.

## The War Period

Naturally the number of teachers and students was affected by the Great War, though far less than might have been expected. The diary of those tense years of isolation evidences only the calm courage of the President and his faculty and their unperturbed confidence in their call to service even during the darkest days. What an achievement that amid the turbulent cross currents of the war, the college held steadily to its course, kept its doors open and came through the struggle crowned with prestige!

In 1918, Dr. John H. Finley, Commissioner of Education of the State of New York, visited Beirut and the college. It was largely on the basis of his report on the

splendid organization and work of the college that the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York on November 18, 1920, amended its charter and changed its name. The corporate name of the institution is now "The Trustees of the American University of Beirut." Dr. Bliss did not live to see the consummation of these negotiations. The stress of the war and the strain of unwearying effort in behalf of the college and Syria during armistice period had undermined his condition. He passed away on May 2, 1920.

## Coeducation

The Orient has only slowly been persuaded to the importance of education for women and provisions for their education have been correspondingly meagre and elementary. But the women of the Near East gained a freedom and an independence through their war service as did their sisters in the west, and they demanded the privileges of their new status. The University had what the women wanted and demanded and in 1920 the professional schools were opened to them. In 1922 they were admitted to the upper classes in the School of Arts and Sciences.

## President Dodge Inaugurated

Rev. Bayard Dodge, son-in-law of Dr. Howard Bliss, was appointed from the Faculty of the University to succeed the late president. The inaugural exercises were held on the University grounds on June 28, 1923. The presence there of the thousands of all races and creeds and ranks of the Near East and of many from distant lands was a fitting testimony of the love and esteem which the University had inspired among those people and a token of their gratitude and continued loyalty.



PANORAMIC VIEW OF T

The University is nearing the close of its sixth decade. Its place is established. It is justified of its students in its purpose to carry on in a new era which had opened for the people of the Near East. It has many loyal friends in America and there are a few whose contributions have been most generous. The men and women whose donations are responsible for the spacious grounds and substantial buildings of the University have contributed because they have believed in its work for the upbuilding of the civilization of the Near East. The University is now too large to be the burden of a limited group, and its expanding service demands a wider circle of sympathetic friends who will contribute to its support.

## Purpose of the University

As a privately endowed non-sectarian institution, the American University of Beirut aims to share with all its students the Christian heritage of thought and life. It is not an attempt to Americanize the natives. Its purpose is rather to furnish cultural and scientific training to the young men and young women who are to be the leaders in the professional and commercial life of the Near East;


UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS

to awaken the spirit of brotherhood there between the members of hostile races and sects; and to inspire the students with the great moral standards and spiritual ideals of Christianity.

"The College is for all conditions and classes of men," said Dr. Daniel Bliss, "without reference to color, nationality, race or religion. A man, white, black, or yellow, Christian, Jew, Mohammedan or heathen may enter and enjoy all the advantages of the institution for three, four, or eight years, and go out believing in one God or in many gods or in no God; but it will be impossible for anyone to continue with us long without knowing what we believe to be the truth and our reasons for that belief." The character and aims of the University have again been most convincingly stated by Dr. Howard Bliss in his article, "The Modern Missionary," that appeared in the Atlantic Monthly of May, 1920.

## Faculty

The University means new life to thousands, new ideas, a new knowledge of the teachings of Christianity, a new force of character which is slowly but surely revolutionizing the Near East. So apparent is its value to the

PRESIDENT BAYARD DODGE WITH FACULTY AND STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY

individual students and to the countries which it serves that the native rulers have come to see in it an agency for the improvement and rehabilitation of their states to make them real nations.

The Minister of Interior under King Hussein in the Kingdom of Hedjaz is a former student of the University; the Minister of Defense in the Kingdom of Irak is an alumnus. To students in America King Feisal of Irak last year sent the following message: "Tell them to come out here and build an institution similar to the American University of Beirut and Robert College at Constantinople."

The University has a teaching and administrative force of 136, of whom about fifty are Americans; about the same number are Syrians and the remainder are British, Greeks, Armenians, Hebrews and Swiss. The greater number of the native teachers have been students at the University and they have shown themselves most capable of interpreting in Eastern character the work and spirit of the institution.

In addition to the members of the permanent faculty, there are American instructors who go out to the University for a term of three years. From six to eight of these younger college men are selected each year. The effort is made to secure on the Faculty and staff representation of the very best leadership to be found in America.

## Students

The students, almost a thousand in number, come from Syria, Palestine, Arabia, Irak, Asia Minor, the Greek Islands, Persia, the Sudan, Abyssinia, and occasionally from Russia, Central Europe and South America. One of the most hopeful evidences of the large service

of the University beyond the borders of Syria is the fact that nearly fifty students have come this year from the Mesopotamian Kingdom of Irak and twenty-two from Persia.

The students belong to the following religious sects: Moslems, Bahais, Druzes, Jews, Copts, Gregorians, Catholics (Greek, Armenian, Maronite, others), Jacobite, Syriac, Greek Orthodox and Protestants. They represent every class in society and under the supervision of broad-minded Americans they learn the meaning of democratic social life together. Of late years between 40% and 50% of the student body has been non-Christian.

The following list from the register of 1922 is typical of the cosmopolitan character of the student body:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Syrian | 561 | Brazilian | 3 |
| Egyptian | 99 | Turks | 3 |
| Palestinian | 99 | Albanian | 2 |
| Armenian | 74 | Swedish | 2 |
| Greek | 27 | Austrian | 1 |
| American | 25 | Circassian | 1 |
| Persian | 19 | Italian | 1 |
| Mesopotamian | 17 | Polish | 1 |
| Russian | 15 | Spanish | 1 |
| Arab | 6 | | |
| British Subjects | 5 | | 966 |
| Bulgarian | 4 | | |

The following table shows the enrollment for the year 1923-24:

| | |
|---|---|
| School of Pharmacy | 20 |
| School of Nursing | 41 |
| School of Dentistry | 44 |
| School of Commerce | 68 |
| School of Medicine | 99 |
| School of Arts and Sciences | 166 |
| Preparatory School | 470 |
| Total | 908 |



CLASS IN BACTERIOLOGY

## The Curricula

The American University of Beirut is a real university with all the leading professional schools (except those of law and theology), as well as a liberal arts college, and in everything save numbers and elaborate equipment on a par with our American Universities. Its standards are high and are meticulously enforced.

During the early days of the college Arabic was the language of instruction in all departments. Lack of text books in Arabic and the growing cosmopolitan character of the student body forced the change to a western language and English was chosen as most appropriate for the methods and ideals of the institution. However,

vernacular study, which is, of course, chiefly Arabic, is obligatory throughout the preparatory course and the first two years of college.

Syria is under a French mandate. French is the language of commerce and one of the official languages as well, and French schools offer attractions to prospective students, especially since they represent the means of easy access to public and semi-public appointments under the French. Courses in French at the University are prescribed to neutralize this handicap; a minimum of four years of French is required. The University aims to give the student a thorough knowledge of three languages, his vernacular, English and French.

The standard of the professional schools is kept high through certain obligatory professional courses in the School of Arts and Sciences. But, after the manner of our American schools, there are combined courses which enable the student to shorten the preparatory training through concentration on subjects in his chosen field.

While the University endeavors to keep high the standard of its own work for full recognition of its diplomas in American and European institutions, it has also reacted beneficially on the native and other schools of the Near East many of whose students are fitting themselves for the more advanced courses at the University.

The University is not static either in its courses or its methods and continually has before it the ideal in education for young men and young women of the Near East. It is obliged to consider three essential factors in arranging its curricula. It must present courses of study satisfactory to both the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York and the Department of Public Instruction of France which determines the educational



THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

laws of Syria, and it must furnish courses appropriate to the conditions prevailing in the countries where the graduates find their life work. Since the Great War a thorough study of the curricula and processes is being made to discover what adjustments are best suited to the changed conditions of the new era, especially with respect to more extensive courses in Arabic literature and culture.

## Religious Exercises and Instruction

The University is a Christian institution but its attitude toward men of other religions is one of cooperation in an earnest search after truth. It believes that the students of the different religions can cooperate helpfully in attendance on and participation in the various religious activities of the University.

There are morning chapel exercises five days in the week which the entire teaching and student body in the upper departments of the University are expected to attend. Other religious exercises are held on Sunday, attendance upon which is voluntary for students.

For such students as have conscientious objections to taking part in the distinctly religious life of the University, a series of alternative exercises are arranged which they are required to attend instead. Although in these exercises the conventional form of religious teaching is omitted, the moral and spiritual aim of the University is presented emphatically. A large majority of the students elect to attend the religious services.

In the Preparatory School and in the School of Arts and Sciences there are regular curriculum classes for the study of the Bible. There are alternative courses in ethics or allied subjects for those who are excused from Bible classes.

Brotherhoods have been organized both in the college proper and in the preparatory department as voluntary religious societies for students and teachers.

## Athletics

The University grounds are large and admirably situated so that every student may receive the inestimable advantages of daily invigorating exercise in the open air. Regular physical exercises, carefully supervised by a trained instructor, are compulsory for all Preparatory students and for the Freshman and Sophomore classes of the Schools of Arts and Sciences and of Commerce. Association football is the principal game, while basketball, field hockey, tennis and swimming are also popular. The mildness of the climate has helped to counteract



COSMOPOLITAN ASSEMBLAGE AT FIELD DAY SPORTS

the lack of a gymnasium. There are baths, supplied with hot and cold water, and in warm weather the students go to the sea, under the supervision of a university officer, for sea-bathing. Every student is expected to learn to swim while at the University.

The class games and field sports have proven to be not only health builders for the students but an important factor in encouraging democracy and in instilling a sense of fair play even among students whose racial and religious traditions have often led their peoples to bitter conflicts.

Field Day at the University is a gala event for the whole country and brings together distinguished visitors and a most cosmopolitan and enthusiastic concourse to witness the strange antics of the students in western style athletic contests.

## Other Activities

The students take a keen interest in literary work and their class societies afford them an opportunity for display of talents in oratorical and debating contests as well as in dramatic entertainment, to which they are especially attracted. The students have formed special literary societies for the study of the literature of their vernacular, such as Arabic, Hebrew, Greek and Armenian, and also for the study of English and French. The Arabic Literary Society is the oldest student organization. Its annual meeting, open to the public on invitation, is one of the principal literary events of the year.

Commencement Day is considered by the Syrians themselves as one of the most important days in the national calendar, and the University grounds are crowded during the exercises with people of many races and creeds and classes, who have intimate contact with the University and a sympathetic interest in its work.

The *Al Kullayah* is the monthly magazine published by the University with news of the College and alumni and special articles of more general interest.

The students have their college and class songs and join with enthusiasm in group singing, but the oriental music, weird to western ears, maintains its peculiar hold. Instrumental music is popular with the students and they have organized an orchestra.

Manual labor has seemed to be an irradicable distinction between classes in the Orient. American schools in the Near East have perhaps been more responsible than any other agency for inculcating the idea of the "dignity of labor." The lesson is not yet thoroughly learned but the University has a great many examples of it among its students, and the age of ridicule at manual service there is now past.

## Alumni

More than 3,500 diplomas have been granted during the past sixty years and many other students have spent several years at the University without completing the full course.

Among the thousands of graduates are eager, earnest future leaders of the Near East. They have been trained to become teachers, doctors, merchants, pharmacists, dentists, engineers, nurses; men and women who have responded to the "psychological climate" of the University, and at the same time have been disciplined in a definite way to become centers of light and leading throughout the Near East and in many distant lands.

Naturally the greater number of the alumni have remained to serve in the home land, and they are always well represented on the Faculty of the University. They are found in almost all the larger states of the world, and in certain countries they have rendered noteworthy public service, especially in the Sudan, in Mesopotamia, and in the Philippines. It is of these that Lord Cromer and Lord Kitchener and Sir Eldon Gorst and Sir Reginald Wingate and Field-Marshal Lord Allenby have spoken in such warm and generous praise for their splendid work. It is for such men that King Feisal, son of the King of the Hedjaz, has recently made a personal demand for his Mesopotamian Kingdom.

The alumni have always manifested a very great interest in the University and are just as proud of their Alma Mater as American graduates are of theirs. They plan to send their children to the University; some of the young descendants of the third generation are now being educated there.

In 1908 the alumni of Egypt and the Sudan gave the University the beautiful life size marble statue of Dr. Daniel Bliss which stands in the library.

At the annual meeting of the alumni held in connection with Commencement in 1923, it was voted that a minimum fund of $150,000 be raised in the course of the next three years, $50,000 of which will be devoted to scholarships and the Oriental Department of the Library of the University, and the balance to be applied to the new general hospital building. Such evidence of loyalty on the part of the students gives the assurance that the interest of the natives in the University is genuine and that American contributions serve a worthy cause here.

Alumni Associations have already been organized at Aleppo, Tripoli, Beirut, Haifa, Jerusalem, Cairo, Khartum, Bagdad, San Paulo (Brazil) and New York. Other branches are in the process of organization.

## Grounds and Buildings

The University campus includes about fifty acres of land on which twenty-nine attractive buildings have been erected.

Within the walls of the main campus there are eleven large buildings including Marquand House, the home of the President, the Observatory, and several smaller buildings. Immediately to the west of the main campus is a group of four new buildings accommodating the Preparatory Department, while in a separate enclosure at the eastern end of the main campus are the Women's, Children's and Eye Hospitals connected with the Medical School, and the Home for Nurses. Near by is the Dental

School and also a group of buildings used for clinics. The equipment of the laboratories compares favorably with that of the average college in the United States.

The Assembly Hall is used for chapel and Sunday services and other public meetings. College Hall houses the library which numbers about 24,000 volumes, including 1,700 in Arabic. The Administration building contains the executive offices and visitor's reception room.

Several of the buildings have been named in memory of donors or prominent professors at the University, as Sage Hall, Rockefeller Hall, Daniel Bliss Hall, Thomson Hall, Morris K. Jessup Hall, Pliny Fisk Hall and Martin House, home of the Principal of the Preparatory School.

Ada Dodge Memorial Hall contains the president's office, reception rooms, the bookstore, the refectory, lecture rooms, physiological laboratory and dormitories.

The George E. Post Science Hall contains the geological, minerological, zoological, botanical, archaeological, and Biblical collections and science laboratories.

The Robert H. West Hall was opened in 1914 as a home for religious, social and other student activities.

## Museums

**The Archaeological Museum** contains a collection of antiquities and coins from the Near East.

**A Biblical Museum** has been established to illustrate the life, manners, customs, dress, implements, utensils, etc., in use in the lands and time of the Bible.

**The Geological Museum** exhibits a large collection of rocks, minerals and fossils, mainly cretaceous, both from Syria and foreign lands. The cretaceous fish deposits of Lebanon are among the richest in the world.

**The Botanical Museum** contains an extensive series of models for class room work and an herbarium with about fifteen thousand species: The herbarium is particularly rich in the oriental species, and shows a considerable number which are unique and new to science. The late Dr. George E. Post was the author of the most important text book on the flora of the Near East.

**The Zoological Museum** is devoted mainly to the fauna of Syria and Palestine.

## The Observatory

The Astronomical Observatory is equipped with many valuable instruments, including a 12-inch visual and photographic refractor with spectrograph and polarizing photometer. The station prepares the official weather reports for Syria.



GRADUATING CLASS OF NURSES

## Needs of the University

The outstanding needs of the University include:

a. Gifts to complete the permanent *endowment fund.* The radical territorial changes after the war and consequent economic depression have increased the cost of maintenance and lessened local revenue for the University; the present sources of financial support have been rendered inadequate.

b. General hospital building. For over forty years the medical school used the hospital owned by the Germans. That was taken away when America entered the war and cannot be recovered. The alumni are pledging a part of their fund for the new hospital building; additional funds are necessary.

c. Scholarship funds for worthy students. The tuition amounts to $75.00 and full scholarship including board, lodging and tuition, $225.00.

d. Library.

e. Gymnasium.

f. Faculty houses. Rented houses are expensive and not conveniently available. Proper homes increase the efficiency of teaching force. $15,000 will build a house and thus provide a real home for a faculty family.

g. $20,000 to complete the building of the Nurses' Training School.

# Americans in Residence at University of Beirut 1923-24

## Faculty

BAYARD DODGE . . . . . . . . *President*
ALFRED E. DAY . . . . . . . . *Natural Sciences, Dean of School of Arts and Sciences*
WALTER B. ADAMS . . . . . *Pharmacology, Therapeutics and Dermatology*
CHARLES A. WEBSTER . . *Anatomy and Diseases of Eye and Ear*
WILLIAM H. HALL . . . . . *Principal of Preparatory School*
*EDWARD F. NICKOLEY . . . *Economics, Principal of School of Commerce*
J. STEWART CRAWFORD . . *Bible and Ethics*
HARRY G. DORMAN . . . . . *Gynecology, Dean of Medical Faculty*
HAROLD H. NELSON . . . . *History*
JULIUS A. BROWN . . . . . . *Astronomy*
ARTHUR R. DRAY . . . . . . *Operative Dentistry, Principal of the School of Dentistry*
EDWIN ST. JOHN WARD . . *Surgery*
WILLIAM T. VAN DYCK . *Zoology*
BYRON P. SMITH . . . . . . . *English*
HAROLD W. CLOSE . . . . . *Chemistry*
ARTHUR A. BACON . . . . . *Physics*
PHILIP K. HITTI . . . . . . . *History*
LAURENS H. SEELYE . . . . *Psychology and Philosophy*
HABIB Y. RIHAN . . . . . . . *Prosthetic Dentistry*
WM. D. CRUIKSHANK . . . *Pathology*
HENRY W. SMITH . . . . . . *Psychiatry and Neurology*
LELAND W. PARR . . . . . . *Bacteriology*
EDWARD L. TURNER . . . . *Physiology*
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Walter H. Ritsher
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Joseph H. Stein
Raymond C. Whittlesey
Roy Neil Veatch
David Hall
Randolph B. Smith
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Andrus O. Griffith
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Robert Stone
Robert C. Francis
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William H. Forbes
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Miss Ellen Simpson
Miss Lydia Talbot
Miss Sarah R. Seybold
Miss Hazel B. Distin
Miss Kathryn M. Neuman
Miss Flora R. Landon
Miss Marjorie G. Webster

*Mr. and Mrs. Nickoley on leave at the University of Illinois.
†Resigned January, 1923.

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AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT
UT VITAM HABEANT ET ABUNDENT
1866
الجامعة الاميركانية في بيروت